



CENTRAL DELTA WATER AGENCY

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COPY

Jim Monroe, P.E., Esq.
Chief Delta Office, Room 1480
Attn: Regulatory Branch (199700173)
U.S. Army Engineer District, Sacramento
Corps of Engineers
1325 J Street
Sacramento, CA 95814-2922

RE: **Fish Screens on Diversion Structures
in the Legal Delta**

Dear Jim:

I want to thank you for whatever role you played in preparation of the formal programmatic consultation dated October 6, with specific reference to Term 3 appearing at page 31 relative to syphons and diversion pumps in the Bay Delta. It is also my understanding that further discussion is, or will be, taking place about creating some threshold level for exempting small diversions.

In that regard, I would ask you to consider using 35 cubic feet per second as the threshold level for Delta syphons below which consultation would not be required.

I would also like to apprise you of some information which was presented to the Ecosystem Round Table at its meeting on Friday, November 14, 1997. Alan Baracco of the California Department of Fish & Game made a report on Proposition 204 fund sharing for the CVPIA Program. He indicated that Proposition 204 provided \$93 million in bond funds for the state share of CVPIA programs which was allocated to the Department of Water Resources and the Department of Fish & Game and is linked to Section 3406 of the CVPIA. Section 3406 and its several sub-parts specifies how the funds are to be applied. Section B 21 provides for federal assistance to the state in efforts to screen juvenile anadromous fish. Other sections also include fish screening.

According to Mr. Baracco, there are broad discussions taking place between state and federal agencies (including the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service) to prioritize fish screening efforts. In answer to my question, he indicated that there has not yet been formal coordination with the State Water Resources Control Board of the type anticipated in the Bay-Delta Plan language which we have discussed previously. His descriptions, however, made the ongoing efforts sound like very much of what the State Board was calling for in the Bay-Delta Plan.

This was my first exposure to the ongoing efforts of the federal and state fishery agencies to coordinate and prioritize fish screening efforts. I would think that these efforts should be incorporated into the nationwide permits announced in the October 6, 1997 letter addressed to you by Wayne White.

I would very much appreciate hearing from you after you have given these requests some consideration.

Yours very truly,

Thomas M. Zuckerman
THOMAS M. ZUCKERMAN

TMZ/csf

cc: CDWA Directors
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